



# California Department of Veterans Affairs

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## NEWS FOR VETERANS

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### NEWS FROM THE CALIFORNIA STATE MILITARY RESERVES

#### CALIFORNIA STATE MILITARY RESERVES SEEKS VETERANS TO FILL MILITARY POSITIONS HERE IN CALIFORNIA.

Sacramento – The California Military Department, California State Military Reserve, is currently seeking veterans to fill their volunteer ranks at units across California. The California State Military Reserve (SMR) is a reserve military organization exclusively for the State of California. The SMR has no federal mission and cannot be called to federal service or sent overseas. Usually volunteers are not deployed outside California, though some 77 SMR troops were activated for the Katrina response in the first out of state deployment for the service.

The job of the SMR is to provide support and training to the California National Guard (CNG) and can be called to active duty in the event of an earthquake or other state emergency by the Governor. When the Guard is called to federal service, soldiers in the SMR take on their responsibilities here at home. With so much of the CNG deployed, the SMR is taking on more state missions than ever before. This is an excellent opportunity for veterans to serve in uniform again, but without the risk of an overseas deployment. At military installations across the state, SMR soldiers are serving as base security, running State HQ, and other State Active Duty positions.

There are currently 19 SMR units across California, and more are planned. During WWII, the ranks of the SMR (then called the State Guard Reserve), swelled to 72,000, performing all state military missions here at home while the CNG was deployed. Currently there are 600 men and women serving in the CA SMR, the desire is to grow to 3,000. Whatever your rank, MOS, branch, or length of service, the California State Military Reserve needs you. Even if you received a medical discharge with a high VA disability rating.

To qualify for service in the SMR, applicants must be 18-63 years of age (with some waivers to 70), be a resident of California and free of felony convictions. Prior service members come in at their previous rank. There is no physical training or PT test. SMR soldiers must be able to physically perform their duties and disability waivers are available. There is no enlistment contract, SMR soldiers are free to leave on 30 days written request.

Veterans interested in serving in the SMR are encouraged to visit their website at [www.calguard.ca.gov/casmr](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/casmr). For more information contact the SMR State Recruiting Officer, Major (CA) Rick Lalor, at [richard.lalor1@us.army.mil](mailto:richard.lalor1@us.army.mil) or 562 795-2898.

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